

had conferred with Premier Lloyd George, and was made in behalf of the British delegation.

Asked if the covenant might provide for race equality, Lord Robert said that this could not be done without interfering with the internal affairs of various nations, which would violate the principles of the league.

Regarding the voluntary withdrawal of any nation from the league, Lord Robert pointed out that there was much to be said on both sides of the question.

Contrary to the view of the British delegation, as expressed by Lord Robert, it is said that the majority of the five big nations contemplates attaching the League of Nations compact to the peace treaty as an appendix. This would enable Germany to sign the treaty without securing admission to the league, although at the same time she would accept the declaratory principles. It is noted here that this decision is not final and that no final decision has been reached.

#### Try to Reconcile Views.

Special interest attached to today's conferences in view of the recent reports of divergences among the Powers as to the inclusion of the league plan in the treaty. The meetings were regarded as an earnest, decisive effort to reconcile all views into a common understanding for an early conclusion of peace in a comprehensive, satisfying military, naval, economic and financial terms, as well as the League of Nations.

The general situation as to the peace treaty has been greatly clarified during the last twenty-four hours by discussions among the heads of various delegations. American, British, French, Italian and Japanese plenipotentiaries take the view that the attitudes of the American, French and British Governments will be brought into entire accord.

#### Ready Late Next Week.

Present plans contemplate the completion of hearings given neutral nations on the League of Nations during the present week, and during the succeeding week attention will be given to boundaries, reparation and other branches of the treaty.

A letter signed by President Wilson and Premier Clemenceau and Orlando was handed to Premier Lloyd George yesterday strongly urging him to postpone for a fortnight his return to England, in view of the urgency of the problems before the Peace Conference. Lloyd George will submit the letter to the British Cabinet and it is understood will act in accordance to its views. The letter follows:

"It seems to us imperative, in order that the world may wait no longer for peace, that it is actually unavoidable, that you remain in Paris until the chief questions connected with peace are settled, and we earnestly beg you to do so. If you can arrange to remain another two weeks we hope to believe that all important result can be obtained."

"We write this with full comprehension of the very urgent matters that are calling you to England and with a vivid consciousness of the sacrifices we are asking you to make."

LONDON, March 18.—In official quarters in London today it was considered that Premier Lloyd George would accede to the request and remain in Paris a fortnight longer, unless unforeseen circumstances should imperatively require his return to London.

#### OPEN KIEL CANAL TO ALL, IS FINAL EDICT

Supreme Council Orders Helgoland Dismantled.

PARIS, March 18.—The fortifications on the island of Helgoland, Germany's formidable base in the North Sea, must be dismantled. The Supreme Allied War Council has issued a final edict to that effect.

It was decided also that the Kiel Canal should be internationalized, and made available to the ships of all nations on even terms. Tolls will be collected to pay for the maintenance of the canal. Germany promises to retain sovereignty of the waterway.

The council has under consideration the question of maintaining Helgoland as a port of refuge for distressed ships. Disposition of German warships is not likely to be included in the treaty of peace, according to the view of the American peace delegation. Germany, however, will be required to surrender title to the ships. The ultimate ownership will be determined later.

The future navigation of the Rhine will be controlled by an allied commission, the Peace Conference Commission on the international regime of ports, railways and waterways decided today. The commission will replace the German Holland Commission of before the war.

The British delegation to the Peace Conference, it was announced today, has consented to refer to the Supreme Council the question of the future disposition of the German cables to America. All parties interested in the question are preparing briefs.

Ten American delegates to the Peace Conference, it was reported from Paris on March 12, were endeavoring to make a strong protest against the German claims to the captured German cables, as it was realized that if Great Britain's claims to the cables should be sustained, the German cables would be a monopoly of cable communication. Legal experts of the conference have been examining the question.

The two German cables from Emden to America by way of the Azores were cut by the British early in the war. The cable from Monrovia, Liberia, to Brazil also was cut. The British took one end of one of the German American cables to Halifax, obtaining another transatlantic line for themselves. The French Government received the other cable, but has not used it. The British claim had been that the cables were prizes of war.

#### NEUTRALS SUGGEST CHANGES IN LEAGUE

International Parliament by Election Urged.

PARIS, March 18.—In reply to a request by the committee on the League of Nations, of which President Wilson is chairman, that neutrals send suggestions before Thursday, representatives of the International Conference of the League of Nations Societies, in session at Bern from March 6 to 13, have outlined in a telegram numerous amendments which they submit for the consideration of the committee.

This conference was composed of delegates of fifty associations of England, Italy, Germany, Austria, Denmark, Holland, Hungary, Sweden and Switzerland, and there were present also at the sessions representatives from France, the United States, Russia, Bulgaria, Egypt, Rumania, Greece, India, Lithuania, Macedonia, Rumania, Turkey and Uruguay.

"Reorganizing the superiority of the Paris text (League of Nations propos-



Broadway and Fifth Avenue at Madison Square

## THE FIFTH AVENUE BUILDING

You have passed The Fifth Avenue Building. You probably have been in some of the offices here. You know the advantages of the location. Yet, until you actually have an office of your own here you cannot fully appreciate just why and how it is, "More than an Office Building."

## NEUTRALS SEEK TO HELP FORM LEAGUE

Dutch, Swiss, Dane and Scandinavian Envoys Voice Protest at Paris.

PARIS, March 18.—A plea that neutral countries should have a larger share in the organization and direction of the League of Nations than is now proposed was made to a sub-committee of the League of Nations today by envoys of Holland, Switzerland, Denmark, Norway and Sweden. Otherwise, the representatives said, they were generally satisfied with the plan.

In connection with the meeting of neutrals to consider the question of the League of Nations, it was announced today that the Danish delegation was composed of Deputy Minister Munch, former Premier Neergaard and M. H. A. Bernhoff, Danish Minister in Paris. Norway is represented by Messrs. Behnemann and Castberg and Baron de Wedel Jarlsberg, the Minister in Paris.

The Dutch League for a Lasting Peace has adopted a resolution for presentation to the Peace Conference on the subject of a League of Nations. The resolution proposes that a maximum be fixed for armaments, that the smaller Powers have greater representation and that the status of the league be revised after a certain period. The resolution asks that the honor be granted to The Hague of becoming the seat of the League of Nations.

A despatch from Geneva quotes the Tribune of that city as declaring that it is in addition to Prof. W. M. Van Eynen, of Leyden University, Holland will be represented at the meeting of neutral representatives in Paris. The despatch says, will now to Weimar, the end of the week.

According to the Yossike Zeitung the plan to transfer the Assembly to Berlin has been definitely abandoned.

The Yossike Zeitung also reports that by the end of May and then adopt a resolution declaring for a constitutional Parliament which will sit in Berlin.

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## DEFENDS EXECUTION OF REDS IN BERLIN

War Minister Tells Diet Rebels Tortured Captives Before Slaying Them.

### LAUDS KAISER'S ACTION

Socialists Warned Not to Interfere—Bourgeoisie Gain in Elections.

By the Associated Press.

BERLIN, March 18 (delayed).—Col. Reinhardt, the Prussian War Minister, defended the Government troops today in a speech in the Diet against the charges of brutality in the Berlin rioting. He declared the summary execution order of Gustav Noske, Minister of Defense, directed at rebels with arms in their hands was required by the situation.

Col. Reinhardt was continually interrupted during his speech by howls and vituperative remarks by the Independent Socialists. Answering the allegations of the Independent Socialists and Communists that they intended the general strike to be a peaceful one, and did not desire the use of force, Col. Reinhardt said:

"How do such vast quantities of weapons happen to come into the hands of the criminal insurgents? How do even cannon get into the hands of so-called innocent persons, and how is it that these weapons are regularly supplied with ammunition?"

Col. Reinhardt recalled the repeated orders of the Government for the surrender of all weapons in unauthorized hands and declared that notwithstanding these orders the Government troops found on Sunday in the single small suburb of Adlershof twenty-seven machine guns, 650 rifles, 2,221 bayonets and 475,000 cartridges.

The Government troops of a single division had lost twenty officers and eighty men up to Thursday and he charged that some of these had been tortured by the insurgents.

Col. Reinhardt assailed Adolf Hoffmann, Minister of Education, for forming former Emperor William a deserter. "Any other decision which the Kaiser could have made on that 5th of November," said the War Minister, "must necessarily have led to further sanguinary and other decisions which the Kaiser would have been forced to make."

Col. Reinhardt declared that the Kaiser went to Holland.

Socialists Get Warning.

Paul Hirsch, the Minister President, added his warning to the Independent Socialists present that it depended upon them whether there must be a renewal of Minister Noske's decree.

Hirsch declared, "the Government will meet this with intellectual weapons, but crude force will be met with force."

The Diet at Munich was opened today to the accompaniment of a strong military display, according to a Munich despatch to the Zeitung Am Mittag.

The entrances to the building were strongly guarded and machine guns posted on the roof. Militia and police were distributed throughout the house.

The deputies and the newspaper men were searched for arms before they were allowed to enter. No one was allowed in the galleries, except the press gallery.

Bourgeoisie Make Gains.

The bourgeoisie parties have made gains in the municipal elections in Düsseldorf and Halle. In Düsseldorf the bourgeoisie elected fifty-nine members of the City Council, of whom forty-three were members of the German party.

The majority Socialists elected twelve councilmen and the Independent Socialists twenty-three.

The elections in Halle put an end to the domination of the Independent Socialists, who elected only thirty-seven delegates to the Workers' Council, as against thirty-six for the bourgeoisie parties, and twelve for the Majority Socialists.

In the elections to the Workers' Council at Kiel, the Majority Socialists got fifteen members, the Independent Socialists eleven, and the Independent Socialists four.

The Government is faced with a difficult problem in fixing the price of bread to be made from imported foodstuffs, the prices of which are much higher than

## HARDEN SAYS EBERT REGIME WILL FALL

Declares Kaiser, if Not a Coward, Could Regain His Throne.

### CALLS GERMANS CRAZED

Says World Peace Depends on Friendly Relations Between Germany, Britain and U. S.

Copyright, 1919, by the United Press.

BRUSSELS, March 18 (by courier to Paris).—Maximilian Harden, editor of *Zukunft* and Germany's most outspoken citizen, told the United Press today that:

The present Government should be and will be overthrown.

The German people are crazy. The Kaiser, if he were not a coward, could return to Germany and regain the throne.

Success of the League of Nations and world peace depend upon close and friendly relations between Germany, Great Britain and America.

Harden, who had just recovered from several weeks' illness, discussed conditions in Germany freely and frankly. He is now in bad repute with all classes, with the old regime because he continually fought them during the war, and with the revolutionaries because Germany has not benefited so far by following President Wilson, as he advocated.

"I am flooded with letters from people asking me why I told them to follow Wilson and why Germany is still starved by the blockade," said Harden. "I don't understand the latest set my faith in Wilson is undermined."

"I realize the tremendous opposition and difficulties he has to surmount. But it is hard to satisfy people who are hungry or others who are using the situation against Wilson and his Liberals."

Ebert Government Still Old.

"Germany's new republican Government is entirely too much like the old regime. But for the time being it ought to be recognized and dealt with liberally by the Entente to prevent Germany from falling into the hands of the Bolsheviks."

"The present Government thinks it must build bridges from the old to the new regime, instead of making the transition clean-cut."

"The Government can be compared to a man who has been beaten at the height of his victory. I pointed out then that defeat was inevitable, but they couldn't see it. So it is with the present Government. It refuses to recognize the great movement toward radicalism or liberalism which is sweeping the world."

"The Government must be overthrown in favor of one that is honest, above board and trustworthy. It is a pathetic that no one was elected to the National Assembly who possesses both ability and the confidence of the people."

"There are brains in Germany. The people are only given a chance. The election of Ebert, the savior, for the first President was a mistake. Why should Germany have to make such a mediocre start as a republic? He is undoubtedly honest, but so ordinary. I am told he wears a flashy pearl earring and is becoming a professional politician."

Condemns Foreign Office.

"Nor is Scheideemann a man who is able to get a good peace. Politics prevails when common sense should. The Government doesn't realize the difficulties of the peace problem or Germany's position."

Harden is heartily disgusted with the methods the German Foreign Office has been practicing since the armistice was signed. He condemns the Foreign Office officials strongly, as he condemns the war and Germany's war policies.

He wants to see Germany deal squarely with the Entente, sending delegates to Paris who can be trusted to make a clean breast of Germany's guilt and establish a basis upon which Germany can begin anew.

Harden's friends urged the Foreign Office to send him to the Peace Conference, to confer with President Wilson personally if possible, to admit Germany's mistake and to clarify her position. Harden agreed to consider the proposal, despite the fact he is one of the few Germans who are not compromised in foreign eyes.

"We were to blame for the war for many reasons," Harden continued.

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**Could You Bake a Loaf Like This?**

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Keeping the Quality UP

**WARD**

"I've consistently said that, not only about the beginning of the war, but about our conduct of it throughout. I pointed out that no one was elected to the National Assembly who possesses both ability and the confidence of the people."

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